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a transfer conveyor adapted to receive the material from the dredge assembly, the transfer conveyor being shiftable between a first position in which the transfer conveyor is operable to convey the material toward the hopper, the transfer conveyor further being shiftable to a second position in which the transfer conveyor is operable to convey the material off the vessel.

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3.(Amended) A vessel as defined on claim 1, wherein the moveable floor includes a flexible belt mounted on a plurality of rollers.

5.(Amended) A vessel as defined in claim 1, wherein the moveable floor comprises a slat conveyor.

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6.(Amended) A vessel as defined in claim 1, including a distribution conveyor comprising a rotatable belt conveyor, the distribution conveyor moveably mounted to the hull and having a first end and a second end, and further including a discharge conveyor having a portion extending into the hopper and being adapted to discharge the material from the hopper to the distribution conveyor adjacent the first end of the distribution conveyor, the second end of the distribution conveyor being moveable to a desired position to thereby unload the material at a desired location.

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10.(Amended) A vessel as defined in claim 9, including a rack and pinion arranged to rotate the distribution conveyor on the turret assembly.

11.(Amended) A vessel as defined in claim 1, wherein the transfer conveyor comprises a rotatable belt, and wherein the transfer conveyor is moveably mounted to the hull.

95 13.(Amended) ~~A~~ vessel as defined in claim 12, including a rack and pinion arranged to rotate the transfer conveyor on the turret assembly.

96 15.(Amended) ~~A~~ vessel as defined in claim 1, further including a discharge auger mounted to the hull and having a portion extending into the hopper and arranged to cooperate with the moveable floor to discharge the material from the hopper.

97 23.(Amended) A multi-purpose vessel for use when recovering material from a bottom surface of a body of water, the vessel comprising:

a hull;

a nonsuction-based dredge assembly mounted to the hull, the dredge assembly being adapted to recover the material from the bottom surface;

a conveyor system, the conveyor system including a first portion adapted to receive the material from the dredge assembly, a moveable second portion, and a distribution conveyor, the second portion being moveable to a first position in which the second portion is adapted to receive the material from the first portion and to convey the material to a first desired location disposed a first distance away from the hull, the second portion further being moveable to a second position in which the second portion is adapted to convey the material to the distribution conveyor, the distribution conveyor being adapted to convey the material a second distance greater than the first distance away from the hull.

98 32.(Amended) A multi-purpose vessel for use on a body of water, the vessel comprising:

a hull;

a dredge assembly mounted to the hull, the dredge assembly being adapted to recover material from a bottom surface of the body of water;

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a hopper supported by the hull, the hopper being adapted to receive the material, the hopper including a floor conveyor routed over a series of rollers, the floor conveyor operable to shift the material from a first part of the hopper to a second part of the hopper; and

a conveyor system, the conveyor system including a first portion adapted to receive the material from the dredge assembly, the conveyor system further including a moveable second portion adapted to receive the material from the first portion and to convey the material along a plurality of desired paths, a first of the desired paths being away from the hull and a second of the desired paths being toward the hopper and

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a distribution conveyor, the distribution conveyor arranged to receive the material from a selected one of the floor conveyor or from the conveyor system, the distribution conveyor moveably mounted to the hull and having a first end and a second end, the distribution conveyor defining a third desired path wherein the material may be deposited at a location remote from the hull.

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34.(Amended) The vessel as defined in claim 32, the distribution conveyor further including a moveable counterweight, the counterweight being positionable on the distribution assembly so as to counteract the forces applied to the distribution conveyor by the material traveling along the third desired path.

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#### REMARKS

The Office action mailed October 9, 2002 is acknowledged. Claims 1-45 are pending in the application, with claims 4, 19-20, 27 and 37-45 withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-3, 5-18, 21-26 and 28-36 are rejected as being anticipated by the WO '303 publication. The Office Action Summary states claim 3 is withdrawn. Applicant believes this is a typographical error and that the Examiner intended to state that claim 4 is withdrawn. In keeping with the foregoing amendments and the following arguments, reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.